

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-7. (Canceled)

8. **(Currently amended)** A method for identifying a compound that modulates the activity or level of a Calcipressin (Csp) protein, comprising contacting a cell comprising a Csp protein with a test compound and determining the level or activity of the Csp protein in the cell, wherein a higher or lower level or activity of the Csp protein in the cell contacted with the test compound relative to a cell that was not contacted with the test compound indicates that the test compound is a compound that modulates the activity or level of the Csp protein, ~~and~~ wherein said activity of the Csp protein is binding to calcineurin or inhibition of calcineurin, and wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 90% identical to amino acids 50-197 of SEQ ID NO: 4 and binds to calcineurin or inhibits calcineurin.

9. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 8, wherein the method comprises determining the level of a the Csp protein, wherein a higher or lower level of the Csp protein in the cell contacted with the test compound relative to a cell that was not contacted with the test compound indicates that the test compound is a compound that modulates the level of the Csp protein.

10. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 9, wherein determining the level of a the Csp protein comprises using an antibody binding specifically to the Csp protein.

11-16. (Canceled)

17. **(New)** The method of claim 8, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 95% identical to amino acids 50-197 of SEQ ID NO: 4.

18. **(New)** The method of claim 8, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 99% identical to amino acids 50-197 of SEQ ID NO: 4.

19. **(New)** The method of claim 18, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is identical to amino acids 50-197 of SEQ ID NO: 4.

20. **(New)** The method of claim 8, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 4.

21. **(New)** The method of claim 20, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 95% identical to SEQ ID NO: 4.

22. **(New)** The method of claim 21, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 4.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is identical to SEQ ID NO: 4.
24. (New) A method for identifying a compound that modulates the activity or level of a Calcipressin (Csp) protein, comprising contacting a cell comprising a Csp protein with a test compound and determining the level or activity of the Csp protein in the cell, wherein a higher or lower level or activity of the Csp protein in the cell contacted with the test compound relative to a cell that was not contacted with the test compound indicates that the test compound is a compound that modulates the activity or level of the Csp protein, wherein said activity of the Csp protein is binding to calcineurin or inhibition of calcineurin, and wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 5 and binds to calcineurin or inhibits calcineurin.
25. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the method comprises determining the level of the Csp protein, wherein a higher or lower level of the Csp protein in the cell contacted with the test compound relative to a cell that was not contacted with the test compound indicates that the test compound is a compound that modulates the level of the Csp protein.
26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein determining the level of the Csp protein comprises using an antibody binding specifically to the Csp protein.
27. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 95% identical to SEQ ID NO: 5.
28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least about 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 5.
29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the Csp protein comprises an amino acid sequence that is identical to SEQ ID NO: 5.